

**ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
INDIANA STATE FAIR ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE**



**Indiana Legislative Services Agency  
200 W. Washington Street, Suite 301  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204**

**October, 2007**

# INDIANA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

## 2007

Senator David Long

Chairman

Fort Wayne

Speaker B. Patrick Bauer

Vice-Chairman

South Bend

Senator Richard Young

Milltown

Representative Brian Bosma

Indianapolis

Senator Brandt Hershman

Monticello

Representative Charlie Brown

Gary

Senator Connie Lawson

Danville

Representative Dale Grubb

Covington

Senator Teresa Lubbers

Indianapolis

Representative Scott Pelath

Michigan City

Senator James Merritt

Indianapolis

Representative Russell Stilwell

Boonville

Senator Vi Simpson

Bloomington

Representative William Friend

Macy

Senator Samuel Smith

East Chicago

Representative Kathy Richardson

Noblesville

John M. Ross  
Executive Director  
Legislative Services Agency

# **INDIANA STATE FAIR ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

## **Membership Roster**

### **Representatives**

**Robert Bischoff, Chairperson  
Greendale**

**Kreg Battles  
Vincennes**

**Phyllis Pond  
New Haven**

**William Ruppel  
North Manchester**

### **Senators**

**James Merritt, Vice-Chairperson  
Indianapolis**

**Phil Boots  
Crawfordsville**

**Richard Young  
Milltown**

**James Lewis  
Charlestown**

### **Staff**

**Susan Montgomery  
Attorney for the Committee**

**Bernadette Bartlett  
Fiscal Analyst for the Committee**

A copy of this report is available on the Internet. Reports, minutes, and notices are organized by committee. This report and other documents for this Committee can be accessed from the General Assembly Homepage at <http://www.in.gov/legislative/>

## **I. STATUTORY DIRECTIVE**

In IC 15-1-1.5-8, the Indiana General Assembly enacted legislation directing the Committee to:

- (1) Serve as liaison between the commission, the board of trustees of the barn, the board, and the general assembly.
- (2) Review policies affecting the activities of the commission, the barn, the state fair, the facilities at the fairgrounds, and the property owned by the commission.
- (3) Provide long range guidance for the commission, the board of trustees of the barn, and the board.
- (4) Review annually the commission's, the board of trustees of the barn's, and the board's budgets and other accounts and report financial conditions to the legislative council. A report under this subdivision to the legislative council must be in electronic format under IC 5-14-6.
- (5) Further advise the budget committee regarding appropriations and other financial matters concerning the commission, the board of trustees of the barn, and the board.
- (6) Propose, review, and make recommendations concerning legislation affecting the commission, the barn, and the board.

The Legislative Council did not assign any topics of study to the Committee in 2007.

## **II. SUMMARY OF WORK PROGRAM**

The Committee met three times during the 2007 interim. Meetings were held on:

- (1) August 1, 2007.
- (2) September 20, 2007.
- (3) October 23, 2007.

All meetings were held at the Board Room of the Administration Building, Indiana State Fairgrounds, 1202 E. 38th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana.

## **III. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY**

**Activities at the State Fairgrounds.** Cynthia C. Hoyer, Executive Director of the Indiana State Fair, provided an overview of: (1) the activities at the Indiana State Fairgrounds during the 2006-2007 year, and (2) anticipated construction and improvements to the fairgrounds. While attendance at the 2007 Fair was down from earlier years, a profit still was made. Highlights of the 2007 Fair included the "Year of Corn" theme, more children's activities, and well-attended and varied entertainment.

**Plans for Future Fairs.** Director Hoyer reported that dates for the Fair in the years 2009 through

2011 will be extended for up to 17 days, which will include an earlier weekend. The expanded dates will allow for more visitors without as much conflict with school attendance. The Fair will work with county fairs and concessionaires that may have concerns about the altered dates.

**Repair and Renovation of Fair Facilities.** Director Hoyer updated the Committee on the completion of the covered bridge and 39th Street bridge, the moving of the Normandy Barn, the erection of the Reynolds Machinery building, and anticipated renovation of the Pepsi Coliseum.

**Center for Agricultural Science and Heritage (CASH) Reports.** Justin Armstrong, Cash Director, and Director Hoyer reported on the educational activities of the CASH.

**Budgets of the Indiana State Fair Commission and CASH.** Mark Hindsley, Controller of the State Fair Commission, provided an overview of budgets for the State Fair Commission and CASH.

The Committee is not required to file a final report. For further details of the Committee's proceedings, the minutes of the meetings of the Committee can be accessed at <http://www.in.gov/legislative/interim>